Approved For Release 2001/03/05 : CIA-RDP82-00457R0040005700 CLASSIFICATION. COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Gerneny REPORT NO. TOPIC Large Seviet Units Brossing the Sibe Siver at UTFUSWEERS 25X1X 25X1A EVALUATION\_ CE OBTAINED\_ DATE OF CONTE 25X1A DATE OBTAINED 6 December 1949 DATE PREPARED\_ REFERENCES.\_\_\_\_ ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) PAGES\_\_\_ REMARKS\_ RETURN TO CIA LIBRARY SOURCE The following observations in connection with large-scale Tibe giver-crosling exercise were made in the WITTENE RG (N 52/3 37) area: 13 October 1949 1. Fourteen armored reconnaissance cars, 2 light A. guns. 25X1B ten motor vehicles with 10 to 12 motor vehicles 25X1B 25X1B trunks and bridge building equipment were entrained in WITTENEERG. 2. 15 October 1949 A train carrying 20 tanks, numerous tracks, several field kitchens and troops passed through WITTENBLAG. Railroadmen stated that several trains with tanks had been observed during the preceding days. The tanks allegedly belonged to tank units leaving JITTEMBERG. 3. 16 October 1949 A general with a staff of about 15 officers arrived at the albe giver near MUDLANGER (southeast suburb of WITTEN-BERG). 4. 17 October 1949 a. Twelve trucks carrying pontoons moved through MUSHL-25X1B ANGER. About 25 trucks with 25X1B went from the woods near DIJTRICHSDORF (N 52/3 47) to WITTERBERG. The trucks were followed by 30 motorcycles and 5 armored reconnaissance cars and, at about 3 p.m. by 9 tanks. CONFIDENTIAL YING CARIDIANG SU/ACREMOE/TES CLASSIFICATION This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 18 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the RDP82-00457R09409057000287 Approved Fo

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5. a. About 30 trucks, having and loaded with pontoons, bridge building equipment and one motor boat, passed through MUCHI-ARGER en route from JITTEMBERG to DILTRICHEDOUT. Local residents reported a tent camp in the woods near DISTRICHEDOUT.

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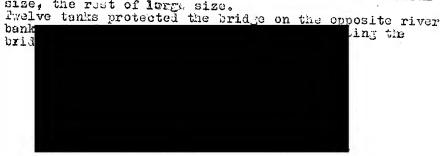


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6. a. Heavy truck traffic was observed between WITTERBURG-ZOBRNIGALL (N 52/E 47) and ZAHNA (N 52/E 48).

b. A large-scale river-crossing exercise, illuminated by searchlights, was held at the albe River near MUEHL-ANGER in the evening and night of the same day. A pontoon bridge was thrown almost parallel to the high tension line crossing the albe River near MUEHLANGER. Not to of the required bridge building material had been shipped to this place by truck during the preceding days. With the bridge completed, an estimated two huntred tanks, five hundred trucks, most being occupied by young troops, two hundred motorcycles and several passenger cars crossed the bridge at rather high speed. Several trucks houled AT guns. About two thirds of the tanks were of medium size, the rest of large size.

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Local residents reported that motor boats towed sway the pontoon bridge.

## 21 October 1949

3. Lost of the vehicles which crossed the bridge returned across the Elbe River bridge near FRATAU (E 52/E 37) in the afternoon and were entrained in MITTERDIRG. On the same day heavy artillery fire was heard in MUCHLANGUR.

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9. About 15 tanks were entrained in WITFIXILEG. The

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#### Field Comment:

- a. The report confirms and supplements previous information by another source (F) \*. Movements from the JUSTERBOG-TERDER-MAKANDORF area towards the Libe River on 6 and 10 October 1949 were interpreted as an assembly of troops who were to participate in the Libe River-crossing exercise southeast of JITTENBLAG on 21 October 1949. \*\*
- b. According to available information, the following units participated in the exercise:

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Engineer unit of the Group of Occupation Forces Germany (GHz unit from POTODAM with motor vehicles of the component units of the 6th and 7th Gds Tank Divs (Cadro) and Hq units of the Third Gds Mecz Aray (Cadro).

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c. The information that the troops engaged in the river-crossing exercise were immediately afterwards entrained in AITEMARK indicates that the troops joined the final maneuvers of the Third 6ds Mecz Army (Cadre) in the JOHEMARK HADE area during the second half of October 1949. The tank units entrained in AITEMARK on 13 and 15 October 1949 presumably proceeded to the mentioned maneuver area.

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